

REMARKS

By the above amendments, claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 have been amended and new claim 7 has been presented. Additionally, the abstract has also been amended. It is noted that generally the amendments to the claims and abstract delete the parenthetical expressions.

Examination of the application and favorable action thereof is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims and abstract by the current Preliminary Amendment. This marked-up version is on the attached pages, the first page of which is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.37453CX3) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 as follows:

1. (amended) A method for recording still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ and still picture group management information ~~(VOBGI)~~ for managing N still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ as a still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ onto a storage medium, where N is an integer number equal to or larger than one, wherein said still picture group management information ~~(VOBGI)~~ includes a first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~ at which the still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ in said still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ was recorded first and a last recording time ~~(L_RECTM)~~ at which the still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ in said still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ was recorded last, said method comprising the steps of:

comparing a recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ of said still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ with said first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~ stored in said still picture group management information ~~(VOBGI)~~ corresponding to the still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ belonging to said still picture data ~~(VOB)~~; and

if said recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ is earlier ~~(RECTM < F_RECTM)~~ than said first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~, replacing the content of said first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~ by said recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ and recording thereof.

2. (amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

comparing a recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ of said still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ with said last recording times ~~(L_RECTM)~~ stored in said still picture group management information ~~(VOBGI)~~ corresponding to the still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ belonging to said still picture data ~~(VOB)~~; and

if said recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ is later ~~(RECTM > L_RECTM)~~ than said last recording time ~~(L_RECTM)~~, replacing the content of said last recording time ~~(L_RECTM)~~ by said recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ and recording thereof.

5. (amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing thereon a procedure for controlling a computer to record still picture data (~~VOB~~) and still picture group management information (~~VOBGI~~) for managing N still picture data (~~VOB~~) as a still picture group (~~VOBG~~) onto a storage medium, where N is an integer number equal to or larger than one, wherein said still picture group management information (~~VOBGI~~) includes a first recording time (~~F_RECTM~~) at which the still picture data (~~VOB~~) in said still picture group (~~VOBG~~) was recorded first and a last recording time (~~L_RECTM~~) at which the still picture data (~~VOB~~) in said still picture group (~~VOBG~~) was recorded last, said procedure comprising the steps of:

comparing a recording time (~~RECTM~~) of said still picture data (~~VOB~~) with said first recording time (~~F_RECTM~~) stored in said still picture group management information (~~VOBGI~~) corresponding to the still picture group (~~VOBG~~) belonging to said still picture data (~~VOB~~); and

if said recording time (~~RECTM~~) is earlier ($\text{RECTM} < \text{F_RECTM}$) than said first recording time (~~F_RECTM~~), replacing the content of said first recording time (~~F_RECTM~~) by said recording time (~~RECTM~~) and recording thereof.

6. (amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 5, wherein said procedure further comprises the steps of:

comparing a recording time (~~RECTM~~) of said still picture data (~~VOB~~) with said last recording times (~~L_RECTM~~) stored in said still picture group management information (~~VOBGI~~) corresponding to the still picture group (~~VOBG~~) belonging to said still picture data (~~VOB~~); and

if said recording time (~~RECTM~~) is later ($\text{RECTM} > \text{L_RECTM}$) than said last recording time (~~L_RECTM~~), replacing the content of said last recording time (~~L_RECTM~~) by said recording time (~~RECTM~~) and recording thereof.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for recording still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ and still picture group management information ~~(VOBG)~~ for managing N still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ as a still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ onto a storage medium, N being an integer number equal to or larger than one. The still picture group management information ~~(VOBG)~~ includes a first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~ at which the still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ in the still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ was recorded first and a last recording time ~~(L_RECTM)~~ at which the still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ in the still picture group ~~(VOBG)~~ was recorded last. A recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ of the still picture data ~~(VOB)~~ is compared with the first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~. If the recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ is earlier ~~(RECTM < F_RECTM)~~ than the first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~, the content of the first recording time ~~(F_RECTM)~~ is replaced by the recording time ~~(RECTM)~~ and recorded.